

JTM

All Creatures Great and Small
Hendersonville, NC
Status Summary
April 17, 2003

A visit to determine the current status of All Creatures Great and Small located at 1050 Seventh Avenue East, Hendersonville, North Carolina was conducted on Thursday April 17, 2003 by Dr. Carol Woodlief, Veterinary Medical Officer, and Mr. Mike Stiles, Animal Health Technician.

~ 4:00 p.m.:

Upon arrival at the facility we observed a black dog running loose through the parking lot. There were 2 dogs loose in the foyer, jumping up on to the glass doors. A volunteer, Jenny, came out to the parking lot to see if she could help us. We identified ourselves as employees from the NCDA&CS and needed to walk through the facility to determine the current status. Jenny explained she was a volunteer and could not give us permission. She would need to call Kim Kappler and/or Jan McElligott to determine if we could enter. Jenny walked into the shelter, returned shortly and placed a white boxer-cross dog in her car. She explained she needed to go use a pay phone to call Kim or Jan. There is not any phone service at the shelter.

While waiting for Jenny's return we observed 6 more dogs running loose through the parking lot at various times around the shelter. (black/tan dog, brown chow-X, lab-X, red chow-X, brown mutt, black mutt) There were 4 "dog fights" occurring between dogs through the fences when the loose dogs ran through the parking lot.

~ 4:20 p.m.:

Jenny and Kim Kappler returned to the shelter inquiring if we were there to bring the paperwork needed to get a license for the shelter. We responded that we did not bring any paperwork but we were there to determine the status of the facility at this time and get an inventory of the animals. Kim Kappler asked that we wait until Jan McElligott arrived before we entered the shelter.

~ 4:35 p.m.:

We decided to start counting the animals that were outside the building. As we walked around the large exercise area, we observed numerous piles of dog feces on the gravel outside of the fence. There were 14 dogs in 4 enclosures beside the building. The metal on the outside of building was loose and sticking out towards the dogs.

There were 2 dogs (shepherds) in an enclosure that had previously been listed as "Kim Kappler's personal dogs". This area had numerous piles of feces covering the ground.

Our observation of the outdoor enclosures under the open building revealed 20 enclosures with 1-3 dogs per enclosure. A total of 46 dogs were located in this area. The majority

of the enclosures had 1 five-gallon bucket of water and 1 five-gallon bucket of food for the dogs to share. (A few enclosures had 3 buckets – we did not determine if they contained water or food.) There was also a minimum of 2 houses per enclosure.

There was one black dog chained to a wood house.

~ 4:45 p.m.:

Upon entry of the building with Jan McElligott we noticed 2 pens in the foyer which contained 11 puppies. Jan McElligott informed us that these puppies were from “Dawn” and they were “day visitors” to be visible for adoption.

There were 22 enclosures inside the kennel area containing 2-6 dogs each. One bucket of food and one bucket for water was present in each enclosure. A total of 73 dogs were located in this kennel area.

We asked to see inside the rooms labeled as private property. Jan McElligott advised us to not open the door since Kim Kappler was not there. (Kim had to leave for a doctor’s appointment.) We did not enter this part of the building.

We proceeded to the “training room”. There were 47 crates/cages present which contained 43 dogs. Without taking direct measurements, there were approximately 15 to 17 dogs that were contained in crates/cages that would not meet the specified square footage of floor space. Two chain link enclosures were present with 3 dogs in each. Skin lesions were observed on the 3 dogs in one enclosure. A total of 49 dogs were in the training room.

The isolation room contained 8 concrete runs and 1 metal shipping crate housing a total of 11 dogs.

Numerous holes were found in the fences containing the dogs throughout the facility. All of the chain link pens were in poor condition.

Individual identification or rabies tags were not seen on any of the dogs that were inside enclosures or running loose in the parking lot.

A room at the back of the “training room” did not contain any animals due to water standing on the floor from a leaking roof. The roof was also leaking in the food/supply storage room. A large pile of blankets was on the floor and Jan stated that either the washer or the dryer had just broken. (She was unsure of which one.) There was one 55-gallon plastic drum that was half full of dry dog food. Jan McElligott stated that more dog food would be picked up on the following day.

The “thrift shop” area was not functioning as a thrift shop. This room contained 9 dogs running loose. Jan McElligott informed us that these were personal dogs of Mary Dunn being housed at the facility due to a death in the Dunn family.

Upon entering the first cat room we observed the insulation falling from the roof and 2 buckets were collecting rainwater leaking from the roof. There were 20 cages in this room, which contained 38 cats and 2 rabbits.

The second cat room contained 26 cages housing 23 cats and 1 puppy. There were 6 small crates stored in the room for transportation of the cats when needed.

A quick glance of the records occurred in the foyer. Pictures of the dogs were seen in each file. Upon review of eight records we observed that pictures were available, but there were no means of identifying the animal's location in the shelter. Three of the files contained expired rabies vaccination records. Details on one of the expired rabies certificates: "Cleo", female plott hound, tag # 0352, DOB 6/9/01 at the shelter, first rabies vaccine on 2/19/02 by Dr. Kevin Matthews, expiring on 2/19/03.

~ 5:15 p.m.:

We thanked Jan McElligott for her assistance during the visit and proceeded to leave the facility. Ms. McElligott asked for our count of the animals. We quickly counted our notes and determined 224 dogs, 61 cats and 2 rabbits present during our visit. Jan McElligott stated that 1 dog at the facility was being housed for Hendersonville as part of an animal cruelty case (a sheltie mix). Dr. Galliken of Fletcher Animal Hospital was unable to hold the dog and asked ACGS to keep the dog. Mr. Donnie Parks, Chief of Police, could verify this as a cruelty case.

As we were leaving, 3 dogs had been tied to fences and trees in the parking lot.

Summary of animal inventory:

DOGS

7	running loose
1	Jenny's car
14	enclosures beside building
2	enclosure outside the private property area
46	open building
73	inside kennel
49	training room
11	isolation
9	thrift shop
11	foyer
1	cat room

224

CATS

38	room 1
23	room 2

61

RABBITS

2

Note:

As we entered the first cat room, Jan McElligott questioned me about the "phone calls" and proceeded to question me about the calls as we were getting into our vehicle to leave. I did not know what phone calls she was talking about. Jan proceeded to explain that phone calls occurred after the March 2002 meeting in Greensboro when all of the information given at that meeting was to be kept confidential. Jan would not sign the settlement agreement because to many details were listed that were to be kept confidential concerning the money ACGS were to receive and the land ACGS was going to purchase.

Jan stated that someone from the "State" called the foundation and said something that caused them to withdraw the money ACGS was going to receive. Someone also called the landowner and threatened him if he sold the land to ACGS to build a shelter.

I stated that no one from the State would have made such calls. Jan stated that it had to have been someone from the State due to this information was given out at the March 2002 meeting and no one else could have known anything about it. She asked me to investigate these calls and determine who could have caused them all of these problems.

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